



Amendments To Claims

1-46. (Cancelled).

47. (Currently Amended) A method for determining whether a communication originates with a human being, comprising:

generating a response ~~to the~~ to a communication wherein the response presents a stimulus that is perceptible by one or more human senses and poses a question that pertains to the stimulus;

measuring a response time to the question presented in the response and determining whether the response time is shorter than a response time of the indicates that the question was not answered by a human being.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, further comprising obtaining an answer to the question presented in the response and comparing the answer to a correct answer that would be provided by the human being such that the question is selected to exercise a capability of the human being to perform common sense reasoning with respect to the stimulus.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising obtaining a set of material for rendering the stimulus and the question from a data store that holds a set of pre-selected material for a variety of stimuli and questions that exercise the capability of the human being to perform common sense reasoning.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, wherein obtaining a set of material comprises varying one or more visual characteristics of the stimulus.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, further

comprising adapting the stimulus to a disability of the human being.

52. (New) A method for providing a subscription to a computer-related service, comprising generating a communication in response to an attempt to subscribe to the computer-related service such that the communication provides a stimulus representing an object and poses a question pertaining to the object wherein the question is selected to exercise a capability of a human being to perform common sense reasoning with respect to a capability of the object.

53. (New) The method of claim 52, further comprising measuring a response time to the question and determining whether the response time indicates that the question was not answered by a human being.

54. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein the object is a living thing.

55. (New) The method of claim 54, wherein the stimulus depicts the living thing visually.

56. (New) The method of claim 54, wherein the stimulus depicts the living thing using sound.

57. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein the object is an inanimate object.

58. (New) The method of claim 57, wherein the stimulus depicts the inanimate object visually.

59. (New) The method of claim 57, wherein the stimulus depicts the inanimate object using sound.

60. (New) The method of claim 52, further comprising varying one or more visual characteristics of the object.

61. (New) The method of claim 52, further comprising adapting the stimulus to a disability of the human being.

62. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein the question is selected to exercise a capability of the human being to parse spoken speech.

63. (New) The method of claim 52, further comprising obtaining a set of material for rendering the stimulus and the question from a data store that holds a set of pre-selected material for a variety of stimuli and questions.

64. (New) The method of claim 63, wherein obtaining a set of material comprises varying one or more characteristics of the stimulus.

65. (New) A system, comprising:

data store that holds a set of material for presenting a variety of stimuli each for representing a corresponding object and for presenting a set of corresponding questions pertaining the objects such that the questions include a question that is selected to exercise a capability of a human being to perform common sense reasoning with respect to a capability of the corresponding object, the data store also holding a set of correct answers for the questions;

service provider of a computer-related service that in response to an attempt to subscribe to the computer-related service generates a communication that presents one of the objects and the corresponding question using the material in the data store and that obtains an answer to the question presented

in the communication and that compares the answer to the corresponding correct answer from the data store.

66. (New) The system of claim 65, wherein the service provider measures a response time to the question in the communication and determines whether the response time indicates that the question was not answered by a human being.

67. (New) The system of claim 65, wherein the material includes a set of pre-selected images.

68. (New) The system of claim 67, wherein the service provider varies the pre-selected images when generating the communication.

69. (New) The system of claim 65, wherein the material includes a set of pre-selected sounds.

70. (New) The system of claim 65, wherein one or more of the stimuli are adapted to a disability of the human being.